

# INFORMATION LETTER

Not for  
Publication

NATIONAL CANNERS ASSOCIATION

For Members  
Only

No. 685

Washington, D. C.

February 19, 1938

## Sprague-Sells to Manufacture Tenderometer

The Board of Directors of Canning Industry Research, Inc., the non-profit corporation organized to handle patents granted to or acquired by the National Canners Association, authorizes the announcement that a license for manufacture of the Tenderometer has been awarded to the Sprague-Sells Division of the Food Machinery Corporation, Hoopeston, Illinois.

Under the agreement entered into this company will have exclusive manufacture and exclusive sale of the Tenderometer for a five-year period. The price for 1938 deliveries will be \$550.00.

The award was made after careful consideration of all bids received and under the terms of the license agreement the price of the Tenderometer will be subject to annual review and to such adjustment as may be justified by changes in production costs. The agreement also requires that the licensee assign to Canning Industry Research, Inc., any improvement patents that may be obtained and that involve the use of the basic patents.

All orders for Tenderometers and all inquiries regarding delivery dates should be directed to Sprague-Sells Corporation, Hoopeston, Illinois.

## CONGRESS SUMMARY

### Farm Bill Becomes Law—Labor Committee Begins Discussion of Hour and Wage Legislation

Legislative action of interest to canners during the week was the final enactment of the farm bill, discussion of the wage and hour bill by the House Labor Committee, introduction of another bill to remove the canning crops exemption in the reenacted marketing agreements law, and announcement by Representative Sauthoff of the promise of the House Committee on Coinage, Weights and Measures that hearings will be held sometime this session of Congress on his proposal (H. R. 6964) to limit and define the sizes of fruit, vegetable and milk cans.

The House of Representatives continued to pile up appropriation bills on the Senate, which went back to the anti-lynching bill filibuster following passage of the farm bill, by passing a \$250,000,000 relief measure and a \$2,000,000 appropriation for the control of insect pests and plant diseases. The House also agreed to the Conference Committee report on the Wheeler-Lea amendments (S. 1077) to the Federal Trade Commission Act.

The Conference Committee report on the farm bill was agreed to in the Senate on Monday and the bill was signed by the President two days later. The new law, to be cited

(Continued on page 5454)

## CONSUMER COMPLAINT SERVICE

### Association's Rules Governing Investigation of Complaints and Defense of Unfounded Claims

The Association frequently receives letters from its members indicating that they are not familiar with the rules governing its service in dealing with consumer complaints. Since the rules were last published in the INFORMATION LETTER of February 28, 1934, a change in the last paragraph has been made, on account of action taken by the Administrative Council in May, 1935, decreasing the minimum provided in the Trust Indenture from \$3,000 to \$1,000. A copy of the amended rules was sent to each member on June 1, 1935. However, it seems advisable to again call attention of our members to the rules, and the introductory statement accompanying them. They are as follows:

The National Canners Association has offered to contest unfounded complaints of consumers involving its members' canned products, in accordance with the resolution of its Board of Directors adopted in May, 1923.

This resolution provided that the costs of defense of alleged food poisoning cases was to be included in membership service, subject to the approval of the General Counsel of the Association, and the rules and regulations governing the same to be recommended by him. This service was extended later to cover cases of alleged injury. These costs were not to include the payment of damages if the court awarded the same.

Accordingly, this matter has been taken up with the Association's General Counsel, Covington, Burling, Rublee, Acheson and Shorb, in order to establish a uniform practice in this respect. Our counsel have expressed their opinion that this Association should not be called upon to pay for the services and expenses in connection with such suits where the service and expense are under the direct control of the member and are simply in line with such proper cooperation as the member should afford to the Association's counsel who has been retained to defend the suit. These services and expenses are such as would be rendered or incurred by the member in conducting his own affairs, and while they are, of course, connected with the lawsuit, they are quite distinct from the services and expenses of counsel engaged to defend it. It seems that members should cooperate to any reasonable extent in providing assistance in defending suits in which their products are involved.

The Association's general counsel therefore recommends that the Association services in the defense of such suits should be as follows:

1. The Association will continue to investigate all consumer complaints involving canned products of its members, and will pay the cost of such investigations.
2. The Association will find and engage lawyers to defend suits of this kind, whether the member is being sued directly or whether the suit is against the distributor or grocer who has sold the member's canned product involved in the suit; provided, however, that the General Counsel of the Association believes the claim to be unjustified and that it should be contested; and

provided further, that the member requests the Association to defend the suit and agrees to pay any judgment that may be rendered against the defendant.

3. The Association will pay the fees and necessary expenses of the lawyers engaged by it, bills for such service and expenses to be submitted directly to the Association.

4. The Association will engage the services of and pay the fees and expenses of expert medical and bacteriological witnesses if such are considered necessary by the lawyer selected by the Association to handle the case.

5. The Association does not pay the traveling expenses of the member or distributor involved or of any of their officers or employees, incurred in connection with the suit. Neither does the Association pay any counsel fees, except to counsel employed by the Association and for services authorized by the Association.

6. The Association does not pay stenographic, commissioners' or counsel fees incurred in the taking of depositions of members or of any of the officers or employees of members.

7. In no event is the Association to be in any way responsible for the outcome of the suit. The Association does not pay any judgment obtained or any part thereof. However, the Trustees of the special Protective Fund, authorized in April 1932, may under conditions specified in the Trust Indenture, contribute to the payment of judgments or settlements in excess of \$3,000 but not over \$25,000, in case of claims of injury sustained from April 1, 1932 to May 22, 1935; and in excess of \$1,000 but not over \$25,000 in case of claims of injury sustained on or after May 22, 1935.

### Proposes Repeal of Pease Act

A bill is now pending in the New York State Assembly to repeal the Pease Act which requires that fruits and vegetables shipped into that State be marked according to United States grade. The repeal proposal, it is reported, has the approval of the State Department of Agriculture and Markets.

### Italian Tomato Products Exports

According to official Italian statistics reported by the American consulate general at Naples, exports of tomato products from Italy during the first eleven months of 1937 totaled 783,693 quintals valued at 174,189,000 lire as compared with 414,912 quintals valued at 82,951,000 lire in the corresponding period of 1936. December tomato products exports were not unsatisfactory, the report states.

The 1937 exports were divided by principal countries in the following order: England, 345,959 quintals; United States, 221,096; Germany, 42,277; Belgium, 34,243; Switzerland, 14,806.

### Date of Wisconsin Cannery School

The Information Letter of February 12th was in error in stating that the Wisconsin cannery school would be held on March 21st-23rd. The school is to be held on March 23rd-25th, with March 22nd devoted to a preliminary exhibit of insecticide application equipment.

### CONGRESS SUMMARY

(Continued from page 5453)

as the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938, amends the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act, and sets up a method of production and marketing control for five major crops—cotton, wheat, field corn, tobacco and rice. It extends until 1942 the authority of the Federal Surplus Commodities Corporation to purchase and distribute agricultural products for relief purposes, and provides for a system of crop insurance for wheat, beginning with the 1939 crop. Further details with reference to the Act will be given in later issues of the INFORMATION LETTER.

On Thursday, following a meeting of the House Labor Committee, Chairman Norton announced that the Legislative Drafting Service of the House was preparing a confidential print of an "Administration" wage and hour bill, which would incorporate flexible hour and wage provisions on a 40-40 basis, for the use of the Committee in a further discussion of labor legislation on Thursday, February 24th.

The confidential print, termed a "compromise" by Mrs. Norton, will contain no statutory exemptions but will place power in the administrator to grant exemptions. The administrative features of the bill, the Committee Chairman stated, will follow those of the bill recommitted during the special session, by providing for industry boards working under a single administrator.

With Senator McNary's introduction Tuesday of S. 3454, another bill that would remove the canning crops exemption from the Marketing Agreements Act has been added to the four proposals pending before the Senate Agricultural Committee. The other bills include two proposals of Senator Bone of Washington, one of which the Senate defeated when offered as a Committee amendment a year ago to the bill reenacting the marketing agreements law, and bills by Senators Johnson and McAdoo of California.

A bill (H. R. 9464) providing for a graduated tax based on the number of retail stores operated under one management was introduced Monday in the House by Representative Patman and 74 other House Members. The bill would tax retail chains of 10 to 15 stores at the rate of \$50 a unit per year. A chain composed of over 500 stores would pay a tax of \$1,000 on each unit in excess of 500.

### Fruit and Vegetable Market Competition

Carlot Shipments as Reported by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, Department of Agriculture

	Week ending—			Season total to—	
	Feb. 12, 1937	Feb. 12, 1938	Feb. 5, 1938	Feb. 12, 1937	Feb. 12, 1938
<b>VEGETABLES</b>					
Beans, snap and lima.....	114	266	156	4,287	2,946
Tomatoes.....	424	547	372	2,836	2,732
Green peas.....	41	97	169	650	1,404
Spinach.....	498	406	359	4,151	3,378
Others:					
Domestic, competing directly.....	6,369	5,240	2,836	95,578	90,479
Imports competing—					
Directly.....	38	45	42	511	547
Indirectly.....	65	73	64	1,232	1,810
<b>FRUITS</b>					
Citrus, domestic.....	2,486	3,458	4,528	45,370	46,111
Imports.....	1	0	6	97	125
Others, domestic.....	220	258	239	18,129	17,943

### Australia's Canned and Dried Fruit Output

Packs of canned fruits and dried fruits in Australia, the principal competitor of similar United States products in European markets, will be higher for 1938 than they were in 1937, according to trade estimates cabled by the American commercial attache in Sydney.

The 1938 pack of canned tree fruits in Australia is estimated at 2,550,000 cases of 24/30-oz. cans, consisting of 380,000 cases of apricots, 750,000 cases of pears, and 1,420,000 cases of peaches. The 1937 pack amounted to 2,328,292 cases, including 127,190 cases of canned apricots, 807,244 cases of pears, and 1,393,858 cases of peaches.

The Australian 1938 dried vine fruits pack is estimated at 85,000 short tons or more. This production will consist of 22,000 tons of currants, 55,000 tons or more of sultana raisins, and 8,000 tons of lexias. The 1937 dried vine fruits pack of Australia totaled 79,430 short tons, of which 20,243 tons were currants, 51,640 tons sultanas, and 7,547 tons lexias.

Stocks in Australia of both canned and dried fruits at the end of 1937 were only nominal, and only sufficient to supply local demand pending new pack deliveries.

### Approves Bill to Safeguard Confidential Data

President Roosevelt has approved the bill (S. 2940) recently passed by Congress providing that information furnished by private firms or corporations in confidence to the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce shall be held by the Bureau to be confidential and may be used only for the statistical purpose for which it is supplied. The bill is designed to protect business enterprises from having their trade secrets laid bare to competitors while at the same time permitting a Government agency full access to such records for the purpose of preparing valuable statistical information. This bill forbids the Director of the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce from permitting any except authorized employees of the Bureau to have access to such individual reports.

### Consumers Like the New Labels

Miss Atwater of the Home Economics Division has just returned from a field trip to Kansas and Missouri, where she spoke to sixteen consumer and university groups, her audiences totalling over 5,400, in addition to three radio talks. An exhibit of descriptive labels was shown to many of the groups. The labels are mounted on cards of a convenient size to pass throughout the audience so that they may be examined carefully by each person. The enthusiasm with which the descriptive labels were received by these women was a matter of great interest. Many of the women had seen some of the labels and all agreed that it was exactly the kind of labeling that they wanted.

As the audiences comprised a great variety of consumers, including Junior High School students (who incidentally do a great deal of buying for the household), homemakers, a restaurant association, and university and college groups, they gave a real cross section of consumer opinion.

At a conference with a group of advertising executives in St. Louis much interest was shown not only in descriptive

labels but also in the whole field of public relations. One newspaper woman who had been so opposed to descriptive labeling three years ago that she would hardly listen to the story, said, "I think the canning industry is doing the most constructive thing with descriptive labels that has been done in the field of consumer relations."

Miss Atwater will be one of the judges in the cherry pie-baking contest held in Chicago on February 22nd, in connection with National Cherry Week. A number of magazine and newspaper women will be among the judges.

### CONCESSIONS ON CANNED FOODS

#### Summary of Foreign Tariff Reductions Obtained under Reciprocal Trade Agreements

Many canners have shown an interest in the duty reductions and increased quotas that have been granted by various foreign countries as the result of reciprocal trade agreement negotiations. To give a general idea of the scope of these benefits the Association has listed in the following compilation the important canned items and the particular concession, if any, granted by each country for that product.

Duty reductions and preference and quota increases are noted as percentages of the rate prevailing at the time the agreements were signed. Since all the canned items listed were not the subject of special consideration, some items having received benefits as the result of an extension of "most favored nation" treatment, there may be in effect at the present time duties which would not agree with the percentages given. In those instances where the United States has been assured that no change will be made in the duty during the life of the agreement, there will be found the notation "Duty bound". The information that follows was compiled from a statement issued by the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce.

#### PORK

Cuba: Duty cut 6%; preference increased 9%  
Belgium: Duty cut 25%, tax cut 35%, on pork tongue only  
Canada: Duty cut 14%  
Honduras: Duty cut 37%  
Colombia: Duty cut 33%  
Guatemala: Duty bound.  
Costa Rica: Duty cut 33% (includes sausages)  
El Salvador: Duty bound.

#### BEEF

Cuba: Duty cut 6%; preference increased 9%  
Canada: Duty cut 14%  
Colombia: Duty cut 33%  
Guatemala: Duty bound.

#### SALMON

Cuba: Duty cut 13%; preference increased 10%  
Brazil: Duty cut 60%  
Canada: Duty cut 8%  
Netherlands Indies: Duty bound.  
Switzerland: Duty cut 50%  
Honduras: Duty cut 67%  
Colombia: Duty cut 33%  
Guatemala: Duty cut 50%  
France: Duty cut 75%; quota obtained.  
Costa Rica: Duty cut 33%  
El Salvador: Duty cut 33%

#### SARDINES

Cuba: Duty cut 20%; preference increased 15%  
Belgium: Duty cut 25% (pilchards, only)  
Brazil: Duty bound.

Canada: Duties cut 25 to 30%  
Switzerland: Duty cut 50%  
Honduras: Duty cut 67%  
Colombia: Duty cut 33%  
Guatemala: Duty cut 50%  
France: Duty cut 75% on 226,460 pounds of pilchards only.  
Costa Rica: Duty cut 33%

#### SHRIMP

Cuba: Duty cut 7%; preference increased 5%  
Canada: Duty cut, oysters 8%, shrimp 31%, lobster 100%, other 9%  
Switzerland: Duty cut 25% (shrimp only)  
Colombia: Duty cut 33%  
Guatemala: Duty cut 50%  
France: Duty cut 30% and special quota treatment assured (crustaceans only)  
Costa Rica: Duty cut 33%

#### PRAWNS

Cuba: Duty cut 17%  
Belgium: Duty cut 27%  
Haiti: Duty cut 35%  
Sweden: Duty cut 33%  
Brazil: Duty cut 20%  
Canada: Duty cut 20%  
Netherlands: Ad val duty and monopoly fee bound (up to 11 pounds)  
Netherlands Indies: Duty bound.  
Switzerland: Duty cut 20%  
Honduras: Duty cut 75%  
Colombia: Duty cut 50%  
Guatemala: Duty bound.  
Nicaragua: Duty cut 33%  
Finland: Duty cut 33%  
Costa Rica: Duty cut 33%  
El Salvador: Duty cut 74%



## PEARS

Cuba: Duty cut 17%  
 Belgium: Duty cut 27%  
 Haiti: Duty cut 35%  
 Sweden: Duty cut 35%  
 Brazil: Duty cut 30%  
 Canada: Duty cut 30%  
 Netherlands: Ad val duty and monopoly fee bound (up to 11 pounds)  
 Netherlands Indies: Duty bound.  
 Switzerland: Duty cut 30%  
 Honduras: Duty cut 75%  
 Colombia: Duty cut 50%  
 Guatemala: Duty bound.  
 Nicaragua: Duty cut 35%  
 Finland: Duty cut 35%  
 Costa Rica: Duty cut 35%  
 El Salvador: Duty cut 74%

## PINEAPPLES

Cuba: Duty cut 17%  
 Belgium: Duty cut 27%  
 Sweden: Duty cut 60%  
 Brazil: Duty cut 20%  
 Canada: Duty cut 20%  
 Netherlands: Ad val duty and monopoly fee bound (up to 11 pounds)  
 Netherlands Indies: Duty bound.  
 Switzerland: Duty cut 30%  
 Honduras: Duty cut 75%  
 Colombia: Duty cut 50%  
 Guatemala: Duty bound.  
 France: Duty cut 5% (unsweetened only)  
 Nicaragua: Duty cut 35%  
 Finland: Duty cut 35%  
 Costa Rica: Duty cut 35%

## APRICOTS

Same reductions as for canned pears with exception of El Salvador, where no concession was obtained.

## GRAPEFRUIT

Same reduction as for canned pears with the exception of Haiti and El Salvador, where no concessions were obtained.

## FRUITS FOR SALAD

Same reductions as for canned pears with the addition of a 5% reduction granted by France on certain unsweetened fruits for salad.

## OTHER FRUITS

Same reductions as for canned pears with the exception of Sweden, Finland, and El Salvador, where no concessions were obtained.

## BAKED BEANS

Cuba: Duty bound.  
 Sweden: Duty cut 35%  
 Brazil: Duty cut 20%  
 Canada: Duty cut 35%  
 Netherlands Indies: Duty bound.  
 Switzerland: Quota increased one-half

Colombia: Duty cut 70%  
 Guatemala: Duty bound.  
 Nicaragua: Duty cut 37%  
 Finland: Duty cut 35%  
 Costa Rica: Duty cut 35%

## PEAS

Cuba: Duty cut 14%; preference increased 10%  
 Brazil: Duty cut 20%  
 Canada: Duty cut 35%  
 Netherlands Indies: Duty bound.  
 Switzerland: Quota increased one-half  
 Honduras: Duty cut 66%  
 Colombia: Duty cut 70%  
 Guatemala: Duty bound.  
 Nicaragua: Duty cut 37%  
 Costa Rica: Duty cut 35%  
 El Salvador: Duty cut 80%

## CORN

Cuba: Duty cut 14%  
 Brazil: Duty cut 20%  
 Canada: Duty cut 35%  
 Netherlands Indies: Duty bound.  
 Switzerland: Quota increased one-half  
 Honduras: Duty cut 71%  
 Colombia: Duty cut 70%  
 Guatemala: Duty bound.  
 Nicaragua: Duty cut 37%  
 Costa Rica: Duty cut 35%  
 El Salvador: Duty cut 80%

## TOMATOES

Cuba: Duty bound.  
 Canada: Duty cut 35%  
 Netherlands Indies: Duty bound.  
 Honduras: Duty cut 74%  
 Colombia: Duty cut 70%  
 Guatemala: Duty bound.  
 France: Duties based on percent of solid content reduced up to 45%  
 Nicaragua: Duty cut 37%  
 Finland: Duty cut 35% (tomato juice only)  
 Costa Rica: Duty cut 35%  
 El Salvador: Duty cut 80%

## SOUPS

Cuba: Fish and meat soups: duty cut 7 in 25% and preference increased 5 to 20%; duty bound on all other soups.  
 Sweden: Duty cut 35%  
 Brazil: Duty cut 20% (except soups with meat)  
 Canada: Duty cut 25%  
 Colombia: Duty cut 70%

## OTHER VEGETABLES

Cuba: Duty bound.  
 Brazil: Duty cut 20%  
 Canada: Duty cut 35%  
 Netherlands Indies: Duty bound.  
 Switzerland: Quota increased one-half  
 Colombia: Duty cut 70%  
 Guatemala: Duty bound.  
 Nicaragua: Duty cut 37%  
 Costa Rica: Duty cut 35%

Stocks of frozen and preserved fruits held in cold storage plants were 117,804,000 pounds as of February 1st, which is approximately 54,000,000 pounds greater than those held a year ago and 29,000,000 pounds in excess of the previous February 1st record-holdings of 1932.

Stocks of vegetables processed by "quick-freeze" methods totaled 28,168,000 pounds, which indicated a net out-of-storage movement of approximately 1,200,000 pounds during the month of January.

The following table furnishes detailed figures:

	Feb. 1, 1937	Jan. 1, 1938	Feb. 1, 1938
	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands
<b>Apples:</b>			
Barrels.....	176	411	312
Western Boxes.....	9,201	13,952	10,938
Bushels.....	7,631	16,819	14,202
<b>Pears:</b>			
Bartlett's (packed boxes)...	29	23	19
Bartlett's (loose boxes).....	6	5	3
Others (boxes).....	379	1,090	620
Others (baskets).....	22	30	21
<b>Frozen fruits:</b>			
Strawberries (pounds).....	10,399	28,019	25,461
Blueberries (pounds).....	1,929	7,259	7,023
Cherries (pounds).....	9,052	22,666	20,762
Others (pounds).....	42,230	66,722	64,558
<b>Frozen vegetables:</b>			
Peas (pounds).....	3,323	9,031	8,969
Beans, cut (pounds).....	1,056	1,930	1,843
Beans, lima (pounds).....	1,813	5,459	5,101
Corn (pounds).....	679	2,175	2,114
Spinach (pounds).....	379	2,388	2,341
Others (pounds).....	4,033	8,368	7,800

## Florida Citrus Marketing Agreement Dropped

The Agricultural Adjustment Administration has announced that a marketing agreement proposed for Florida industry groups to operate for the remainder of the current season cannot be put into operation because of wide differences of opinion within the industry. It was stated, however, that orange growers would be assisted by purchases to be made by the Federal Surplus Commodities Corporation, which announced a buying program about two weeks ago.

## ALASKA FISHERY REGULATIONS

## Few Changes of Importance Are Reported to Have Been Made

Revised regulations for the protection of the Alaska fisheries were approved by Daniel C. Roper, Secretary of Commerce, on February 15, 1938. A normal run of salmon is expected in nearly all districts of Alaska this year, according to the Commissioner of Fisheries, and the revised regulations contain few changes of importance, it is stated.

In the Bristol Bay area the boundaries of the Egegik and Ugashik districts have been redefined, and the use of 150-fathom gill nets in the Nushagak district is again permitted. Except in the Ugashik district, the red salmon fishing season is from June 24 to July 25. It has been determined that the run in the Ugashik district is later than elsewhere in Bristol Bay and the fishing season there is from June 30 to July 28.

In the Alitak Bay region of the Kodiak area the fishing season has been extended 5 days, and certain parts of Olga

## Would Label Vegetables "Fresh", "Canned" or "Frozen"

Legislation to compel restaurants to indicate whether the fruits and vegetables they sell are "fresh", "canned" or "frozen" was recommended by the United Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Association in recent annual convention at New Orleans. The proposal was advanced as one way to combat inroads of processed foods on the fresh fruit and vegetable industry.

## Cold Storage Stocks

Cold storage apple holdings on February 1st were the largest of record for that date, totaling 26,076,000 bushels, according to the Bureau of Agricultural Economics. They exceeded the stocks of a year ago by 8,716,000 bushels but were only 1,400,000 bushels above the near-record supplies of February 1, 1936.

and Moser Bays have been opened to gill netting. Heretofore these bays have been closed to all commercial salmon fishing.

The salmon fishing season in the Cook Inlet area has been modified in such a way as to permit a greater proportion of early fish to be taken, and also to enable more complete utilization of the pink salmon runs north of Anchor Point on the even years.

In the southeastern Alaska area the use of beach seines in Situk Inlet is authorized from August 5 to August 30, and in Lynn Canal the summer season has been extended 6 days to August 31, after which all commercial fishing is prohibited. Further restrictions in this area are provided to protect the salmon runs in Kootznahoo Inlet and Anan Creek.

Fall fishing from October 5 to 20 is permitted in the southern part of the Clarence Strait district. This season will protect the late spawning pink salmon and yet permit the capture of good quality fall chums.

In the South Prince of Wales Island district purse seiners are permitted under the regulations to use leads 75 fathoms long having mesh of not less than 7 inches. This change will be of direct benefit to fishermen operating in open waters off the west coast of Prince of Wales Island.

A number of trap sites in bays and islets of southeastern Alaska and along the Alaska Peninsula have been closed to prevent excessive drains on the salmon runs. In lieu thereof new sites have been opened for trap fishing at places where it has been determined that such operations will not interfere with conservation requirements. There has been a net closure of one trap site over the number available in 1937.

Because of very intensive operations, the herring fishing season in the Kodiak and Prince William Sound areas has been curtailed by one month, the new closing date being October 16 instead of November 16. In the Kodiak area also a 36-hour weekly closed period, from 6 a. m. Saturday, to 6 p. m. Sunday, has been imposed on the industry. A similar limitation has been in effect in the Prince William Sound and Southeastern Alaska areas for a number of years. Some relaxation in the herring fishery regulations in southeastern Alaska has been possible this year. This will permit fishing to continue until October 16, as in other areas, and will make the opening date July 1 along the south coast of Baranof Island, instead of July 16 as formerly. Purse seines in this area in 1938 may be 50 meshes deeper than in other recent years.

The clam fishery regulations have been modified to permit an increased take of razor clams in the Prince William Sound, Copper River, and Bering River areas equal to 4,000 cases. This relaxation is based upon a study showing material improvement in this fishery in the past 6 years.

Copies of the regulations are being printed and will be sent by the Bureau of Fisheries to all cannerys operating in Alaska.

### Analysis of Canned Food Export Trade

Within the next week the Foodstuffs Division of the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce will issue its analysis of United States export trade in canned fruits, dried fruits, and canned vegetables for the year 1937, with comparisons for several preceding years. Those interested in it

may receive copies by addressing the Foodstuffs Division, Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce, Washington, D. C., or by writing to any of the Bureau's District or Cooperative Offices.

### LABOR RELATIONS RECOMMENDATIONS

#### Business Advisory Council Submits Two Reports to President Roosevelt

Two reports of its Industrial Relations Committee have been submitted to President Roosevelt by the Business Advisory Council for the Department of Commerce. The first of these reports was approved by the Council on April 8, 1937, and the second on January 20, 1938, both unanimously. In submitting the reports the Council stated:

"We hope that these reports, having been prepared with great care and after extended investigation and discussion and then unanimously approved by the Business Advisory Council, will be given sympathetic consideration by all those charged with the formation of public policy and the administration or revision of Federal legislation. We would appreciate the opportunity to discuss the matters presented with any of those persons whom you may suggest."

The reports are summarized by the Council as follows:

#### FIRST REPORT

The fundamental principles essential to industrial peace should be embodied in a consistent industrial relations policy, fair to employers, employees and the public. This policy should then be expressed in voluntary action and in State and Federal legislation.

Cooperation is necessary to maintain and increase productivity and employment. Resorts to force are injurious to all concerned.

Every reasonable effort to settle controversies by agreement should be made by employers and employees. Neither should engage in arbitrary activities until all available methods of negotiation, conciliation and mediation have been exhausted.

Federal and State legislation should encourage and aid the peaceful settlement of labor disputes, making provision for public agencies exercising conciliatory and fact-finding powers and providing the means of voluntary arbitrations.

No controversial activities should be permitted to interfere with public services or jeopardize the national defense.

Employers and employees should be able to exercise the right of self-organization and collective bargaining, free from interference, restraint or coercion from any source. Voluntary agreements and arbitration awards should be enforceable by law.

Corresponding responsibilities should be imposed on both parties and enforced impartially, with a dominant regard for the public interest.

#### SECOND REPORT

The National Labor Relations Act, on the basis of experience since July 5, 1935, should be amended to provide assurances that—

- (a) Neither the Act nor its administration will favor any particular form of bona fide labor organization.
- (b) Employees shall be free in self-organization and collective bargaining from interference, restraint or coercion from any source.
- (c) Any party to a labor dispute shall be able to invoke the services of the Board.

- (d) The functions of fact finding, prosecution and judicial decision shall be separated and not combined in a single agency.
- (e) The rights and obligations of employers and employees and their representatives or organizations shall be more clearly defined by law and made less subject to definition at the discretion of the Board.

### Truck Crop Prospects

The outlook for green peas, tomatoes and strawberries in various States is summarized by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics as follows:

**PEAS.**—Production of green peas in the early group of States this year is expected to be 17 per cent larger than the 1937 production, or 1,170,000 bushels, compared with 1,000,000 bushels last year. The acreage on which this crop is grown is reported by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics to be 4 per cent smaller than the 1937 acreage. This decrease in acreage is more than offset by the increase over 1937 in the average indicated yield per acre, which accounts for the increase in production.

**TOMATOES.**—The spring crop of tomatoes in south Florida is expected to be 7 per cent larger than last spring's crop and 42 per cent larger than the 5-year (1928-32) average production. This would indicate a crop of 1,730,000 bushels in 1938, compared with 1,617,000 bushels in 1937 and the 5-year average of 1,218,000 bushels. Although the acreage reported by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics is about the same as the acreage harvested for shipment last year, crop conditions on February 1st indicated that the yield per acre would be higher than that of a year ago. The total acreage harvested in 1937 was reported at 19,200 acres. The production from 2,000 acres was used for manufacture, leaving 17,200 acres in green-wraps for shipment.

**STRAWBERRIES.**—Strawberry acreage for picking in 1938 is indicated by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics to be 185,360 acres. This compares with 164,000 acres harvested in 1937, and the 1928-32 average of 185,420 acres. Substantial increases in acreage for picking this year over the acreage picked last year are reported for every group of States. For the United States as a whole, the increase amounts to 13 per cent over 1937. Strawberry beds in most producing areas came through the summer of 1937 in good condition. On February 1, 1938, the condition of beds of all ages in the early group of States (Alabama, Florida, Louisiana, Mississippi, and Texas) was 85.3 per cent of normal, compared with 76.5 per cent on the same date a year ago and the 1923-32 average of 83.4 per cent.

### ALASKA FISHERIES

#### National Resources Committee Recommends Steps to Preserve American Salmon Interests

Commending the salmon conservation policy in effect in Alaska but warning that "Japan has been studying the possibilities of fishing off Bristol Bay", a report of the National Resources Committee recently transmitted to Congress by the President recommends that "the Federal government should take immediate steps both to insure the preservation of the Pacific salmon fisheries and to secure the peculiar important American interests therein".

The part of the report dealing with the salmon fisheries states:

"The fisheries present a brilliant example of a successful conservation policy. Not so long ago it was feared that over-fishing was threatening to ruin the industry. Today the annual pack is greater than ever. In fishery questions and research relating to fisheries the United States should seek the closest cooperation with Canada. The halibut treaty with Canada is a model of its kind and the new treaty dealing with the sockeye salmon of Fraser River and Puget Sound bids fair to be similarly advantageous.

"Salmon spawn in the headwaters of streams and then die. The area of the spawning beds seems to be limited in each stream. It may be that overcrowding of the beds by spawning fish reduces rather than increases the number of fry produced each year. It is probable that only a given number of fish are necessary to obtain the maximum number of adult fish each year. This number is probably different stream by stream and should be determined for all important spawning streams. It might be possible so to regulate the number of fish permitted to enter the streams as greatly to increase the fish available for canning.

"This is but one of several scientific problems connected with the salmon runs. Little is known of the habits of the salmon while at sea. Moreover, much of what is known about the life history of salmon is limited to those regions of Alaska where they are taken in commercial quantities. It is well known that they occur elsewhere, for example, all the way out to the westernmost part of the Aleutian Islands chain. It is very important that studies be made with dispatch to fill this gap. Japan has been studying the possibilities of fishing off Bristol Bay. If it were to do so, the runs of salmon in the streams of that region, perhaps the best for red salmon in Alaska, would be jeopardized. The principal industry might be greatly injured. There is, therefore, no question of greater immediate import for the present and the future welfare of the Territory. The Federal government should take immediate steps both to insure the preservation of the Pacific salmon fisheries and to secure the peculiar important American interests therein."

Copies of the complete report, which is entitled "Alaska: Its Resources and Development," were ordered printed as House Document No. 485, 75th Congress, and will be available shortly at the office of the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C.

### CONTENTS

	PAGE
Sprague-Sells to manufacture tenderometer .....	5453
Congress summary .....	5453
Consumer complaint service .....	5453
Proposes repeal of Pease Act .....	5454
Italian tomato products exports .....	5454
Date of Wisconsin canners school .....	5454
Fruit and vegetable market competition .....	5454
Australia's canned and dried fruit output .....	5455
Approves bill to safeguard confidential data .....	5455
Consumers like the new labels .....	5455
Concessions on canned foods .....	5455
Would label vegetables fresh, canned or frozen .....	5456
Cold storage stocks .....	5456
Florida citrus marketing agreement dropped .....	5456
Alaska fishery regulations .....	5456
Analysis of canned food export trade .....	5457
Labor relations recommendations .....	5457
Truck crop prospects .....	5458
Alaska fisheries .....	5458